REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's instructions given during the telephone interview on June 11, 2002. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is in condition for allowance. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-2, 4-13 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson et al. (U.S. 6,301,582). Claim 3 has been allowed.

The present invention relates to a data base for persistent or permanent data comprising a buffer store into which all data to be stored permanently is written, and comprising a permanent store connected to the buffer store, which exhibits at least two storage units or storage areas where the persistent data from the buffer store is alternately stored. As discussed during the telephone interview, alternately storing the permanent data into at least two different storage units ensures that a current set of the persistent data is stored in one storage unit and a preceding set of the persistent data is stored in another storage unit. If problems occur during the storing of new persistent data, the last set of the persistent data is still available. As pointed out during the telephone interview, Johnson does not disclose, suggest or teach alternately storing the persistent data into at least two different units.

Johnson discloses a method and apparatus for creating shared persistent objects. (Col. 3, 25-39). Johnson teaches that persistent data must be stored in files on a disk or other storage medium by the file manager. (Col. 2, 17-18). The Examiner refers to Fig. 2 of Johnson which depicts a shared persistent virtual storage system 190 which includes a virtual storage manager 208, a virtual address translator 210, a page cache 2112, and a pager 214. While Fig. 2. illustrates two "backing stores," nowhere does Johnson disclose, suggest or teach storing two sets of the persistent data in an alternating manner in two separate storing units so as to create a current set and a preceding set of the persistent data. Moreover, as previously set forth in prior responses, Johnson discloses a shared persistent virtual storage system (Col. 11, 4-25), which is a temporary storage means. The present invention refers to the permanent storage of persistent data. Applicant respectfully submits that Johnson does not disclose the present invention.

Specifically, amended claim 1 discloses a data base for storing persistent data. The data base includes a buffer into which is written persistent data to be permanently stored. The data base also includes a permanent memory connected to the buffer, the permanent memory having at least two storage units, into which the persistent data is alternately written so that a current set

2

of the persistent data is stored in one of the storage units and a preceding set of the persistent data is stored in another of the storage units. Each storage unit is structured to store a complete permanent configuration for at least one of: (a) functions, (b) characteristics and, (c) a hardware implementation, of a terminal or cards of the terminal, at least one of the permanent configurations stored having a complete configuration available and being selected for hardware implementation. Johnson teaches a shared address space, which is a persistent virtual (temporary) address space. Johnson's shared address space allows processers to access data within the shared address space at any time. (Col. 3, 33-40). Johnson does not disclose, teach or suggest alternately writing persistent data to at least two different storage units so that a current set of the persistent data is stored in a storage unit and a preceding set of the persistent data is stored in another storage unit, wherein each storage unit stores a complete permanent configuration.

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention claimed in amended claim 1 is patentable over the prior art.

Applicants also respectfully submit that the arguments in favor of amended claim 1 over Johnson also apply to the rejection of claims 2, 4-13 and 16 because these claims depend from amended claim 1.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for allowance and is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any questions related to this Response, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the Applicants' attorney, Maurice E. Teixeira, to discuss this Response.

It is further submitted that no fees are due in connection with this response at this time. However, if any fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the office is authorized to deduct said fees from Deposit Account 02-1818. If such a withdrawal is made, please indicate the Attorney Docket No. (0112740-099) on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

<u>In the Claims:</u>

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1.   (Thrice Amended)   A data base for storing persistent data, comprising:

a buffer into which is written persistent data to be permanently stored;

a permanent memory connected to the buffer, the permanent memory having at least two storage units, into which the persistent data is alternately written <u>so that a current set of the persistent data is stored in one of the storage units and a preceding set of the persistent data is stored in another of the storage units</u>, each storage unit being structured to store a complete permanent configuration for at least one of:

(a) functions,

(b) characteristics, and;

(c) a hardware implementation, of a terminal or cards of the terminal,

at least one of the permanent configurations stored having a complete configuration available and being selected for hardware implementation.